GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:427
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005
CENTRALLY SPONSORED RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
Barman Shri Hiten

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Centrally Sponsored Rural Development Scheme is being implemented by Panchayati Raj Institutions at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the achievements made by the Government in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the works under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 would be undertaken by the Panchayats?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b): The Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) is being implemented by Panchayati Raj Institutions in all districts throughout the country except in the UT of Chandigarh and the National Capital Region of Delhi.

(c): The SGRY envisages additional wage employment and thereby providing durable community assets and economic infrastructure in rural areas. This programme became fully operational from 1.4.2002. The number of mandays generated and number of works completed by PRIs are given in Annexe-I.

(d): The National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 provides that the Panchayats at district, intermediate and village levels shall be the principal authorities for planning and implementation of the Schemes made under this Act. The functions of the Panchayats at the district level are to finalise and approve blockwise shelf of projects to be taken up under a programme under the Scheme, to supervise and monitor the projects taken up at the Block level and district level and to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by the State Council. The functions of the Panchayat at i ntermediate level are to approve the Block level Plan for forwarding it to the district Panchayat at the district level for final approval, to supervise and monitor the projects taken up at the Gram Panchayat and Block level and to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to it by the State Council.

The Gram Panchayat is responsible for identification of the projects in the Gram Panchayat area to be taken up under a Scheme as per the recommendations of the Gram Sabha and the Ward Sabhas and for executing and supervising such works. Gram Panchayats shall take up any project under a Scheme within its area as may be sanctioned by the Programme Officer. Every Gram Panchayat shall, after considering the recommendations of the Gram Sabha and the Ward Sabhas, prepare a development plan and maintain a shelf of possible works to be taken up under the Scheme as and when demand for work arises. The Gram Panchayat shall allocate employment opportunities among the applicants and ask them to report for work. The Gram Panchayat shall make available all relevant documents including the muster rolls, bills, vouchers, measurement books, copies of sanction orders and other connected books of account and papers to the Gram Sabha for the purpose of conducting the social audit.

The National Employment Guarantee Act provides that the Programme Officer shall allot at least fifty per cent of the works in terms of its cost under a Scheme, to be implemented through the Gram Panchayat.